

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks and amendments. Claims 16-24 are canceled. Claims 35-42 are added. Accordingly, claims 35-42 are pending in the application.

I. Election of Claims

The Applicants note the Examiner's acknowledgement of the election with traverse of specie D and claims 16-24 in the response filed on July 16, 2007.

II. In the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 20, 2004

The Applicants note that the author's name for "Next-Generation Image Coding Method JPEG2000" as listed in the second page of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 20, 2004 (the "IDS"), contains a typographical error. In particular, the correct author's name is "Yasuyuki Nomizu" instead of "Kasuyuki Nomizu" as presently listed in the IDS. Therefore, the Applicants submit herein a clean copy of the IDS that includes the correct author's name for the Examiner to initial.

III. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 16-18, 20-22, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 7,127,117 issued to Sano et al. (hereinafter "Sano") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,934,418 issued to Okada (hereinafter "Okada").

Claims 16-18, 20-22, and 24 are canceled. Thus, the Examiner's rejection is moot.

Claims 19 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Sano in view of Okada in further view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0013268 filed by de Queiroz (hereinafter "de Queiroz").

Claims 19 and 23 are canceled. Consequently, the Examiner's rejection is moot.

IV. New Claims 35-42

The Applicants submit new claims 35-42. No new matter is added. The claims recite elements previously recited in the claims, either alone or in combination with one another, as originally filed in the Specification. These claims are discussed in relation with the art of record below.

Sano, Okada and de Queiroz, either taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, among other things, (i) setting one or a plurality of aspect ratios and/or one or a plurality of sizes corresponding to a display unit of an external device, and (ii) setting one or a plurality of image regions within the input image, having one or a plurality of aspect ratios and/or one or a plurality of sizes that are set by (i) above, and setting boundaries of the divided regions subject to the compression process so as to match boundaries of the image regions. These features are recited as analogous elements in independent claims 35, 38, and 40. As discussed below, the cited art fails to teach or suggest these elements.

For instance, Sano proposes dividing the original image into a plurality of tiles that are compressed and encoded. See Sano, Abstract. The quantization rate in the vicinity of the boundary between each tile and its adjacent tile is set lower than the quantization rate at other parts. See Sano, column 10, lines 15, 16, and 22-27. Sano also proposes dividing the original image into a plurality of tiles, making a bit-plane division, and ordering the bit-planes according to the encoding sequence. See Sano, column 10, lines 8-13. The bit-plane in the vicinity of the tile boundary region (where the quantization rate is set low) is shifted with respect to the region that is distant from the tile boundary and that has the high quantization rate, so as to be included in the higher layer of the layers formed by the ordered bit-planes. See Sano, column 10, lines 22-27. Consequently, for these reasons, Sano fails to teach or suggest the previously mentioned features recited in claims 35, 38, and 40.

Okada proposes an apparatus which judges that the proportion of the color difference component information is small if the image feature index is greater than a predetermined value, and sets the sub-sampling rate to reduce the proportion of the color difference component information. See Okada, column 9, line 66, to column 10, line 4. If the image feature index is the predetermined value or less, it is judged that the proportion of the color difference

component information is large, and the sub-sampling rate is set to increase the proportion of the color difference component information. See Okada, column 10, lines 4-10. It should be understood that the sub-sampling in this case refers to the decimating or thinning of the color difference component. See e.g., Okada, Fig. 6. As a result, Okada fails to teach or suggest the above features recited in claims 35, 38, and 40.

Lastly, Queiroz merely proposes authentication of JPEG image data, where the signature is encoded and transmitted to the intended recipient. See Queiroz, paragraph [0041]-[0043]. Therefore, Okada fails to teach or suggest the above features recited in claims 35, 38, and 40.

Further, dependent claims 36, 37, 39, 41, and 42 are allowable over the cited art of record because each of these claims depends on base claim 35, 38, or 40.

Thus, in view of at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that the new claims 35-42 are allowable over Sano, Okada and de Queiroz, and such action is earnestly solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

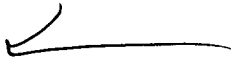
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (408) 720 8300.

Respectfully submitted,

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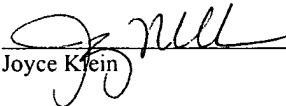


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 28, 2007.

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Joyce Klein November 28, 2007